

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A putter comprising:
a shaft having a proximate end and a distal end;
a grip affixed to the proximate end of the shaft;
a putter head formed from a unitary block of metal and affixed to the distal end of the shaft, the putter head comprising: ~~a unitary block of metal, the putter head comprising~~
a front face, a back face, and a toe face, each operative to be used as a striking surface for propelling a golf ball;
a slot disposed in a longitudinal direction across the back face;
a sole face; and
a bevel disposed at a trailing edge of the sole face proximate the back face.
2. (Currently Amended) The putter of Claim 1, wherein the putter head and further comprises ~~comprising~~ a heel face operative to be used as a striking surface for propelling a golf ball.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Original) The putter of Claim 1, wherein the face angle of the toe face, the face angle of the front face, and the shaft angle are configured such that a player addressing a golf ball with the toe face nearest the golf ball or with the front face nearest the golf ball will be addressing the golf ball with a face at substantially the same angle with respect to vertical.
5. (Original) The putter of Claim 1 and further comprising a putter head cover comprising a plurality of planar faces operable to engage a plurality of respective faces of the putter head and further comprising a shaft detent operable to flexibly engage the shaft of the putter to hold the putter head cover in place around the putter head.

6. (Currently Amended) The putter of Claim 1, wherein the ~~back face defines~~ a slot is longitudinally ~~disposed in a longitudinal direction~~ across the entirety of the back face of the putter head.

7. (Original) The putter of Claim 1, wherein the interface between the front face and sole face of the putter head is radiused.

8. (Original) The putter head of Claim 7, wherein the interface is radiused at a radius from about 1/8 inch to about 3/8 inch.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) The putter of Claim 1, wherein the sole face includes a bevel disposed at the interface of the sole face and the heel face of the putter head.

11. (Original) The putter of Claim 1, wherein the sole face includes a bevel disposed at the front edge of the sole face proximate the toe face of the putter head.

12. (Original) The putter of Claim 1, wherein the putter head comprises a titanium alloy comprising about 6 percent aluminum and about 4 percent vanadium.

13. (Original) The putter of Claim 1, wherein the putter head comprises 17-4 stainless steel.

14. (Currently Amended) The putter of Claim 1, wherein the length of the putter head from the a back face of the putter head to the bottom of the toe face of the putter head is in between about 90 millimeters and about 110 millimeters.

15. (Currently Amended) The putter of Claim 1, wherein the height of the putter head from the sole a back face of the putter head to the top ~~bottom~~ of the toe face of the putter head is in between about 26 millimeters and about 40 millimeters.

16. (Original) The putter of Claim 1, wherein the angle of the front face with respect to vertical is between about 0 degrees and about 10 degrees.

17. (Original) The putter of Claim 1, wherein the angle of the back face with respect to vertical is between about 10 degrees and about 60 degrees.

18. (Currently Amended) A putter comprising:
a shaft having a proximate end and a distal end;
a grip affixed to the proximate end of the shaft;
a putter head affixed to the distal end of the shaft at a location between a longitudinal mid-point and a heel face of the putter head, the putter head comprising a unitary block of metal, the putter head comprising a front face, toe face, and back face each operative to be used as a striking surface for propelling a golf ball, wherein the face angle of the front face is between one degree and five degrees with respect to vertical and the face angle of the toe face equals the shaft angle with respect to vertical plus between one degree and five degrees.

~~the face angle of the toe face, the face angle of the front face, and the shaft angle are configured such that a player addressing a golf ball with the toe face nearest the golf ball or with the front face nearest the golf ball will be addressing the golf ball with a face at substantially the same angle with respect to vertical.~~

19. (Original) The putter of Claim 18, wherein the back face defines a slot disposed in a longitudinal direction across the entirety of the back face of the putter head.

20. (Currently Amended) The putter of Claim 18, wherein the interface between the front face and a sole face of the putter head is radiused at a radius from about 1/8 inch to about 3/8 inch.

21. (Currently Amended) The putter of Claim 18, wherein the length of the putter head from the a back face of the putter head to the bottom of the toe face of the putter head is in between about 90 millimeters and about 110 millimeters.

22. (Currently Amended) The putter of Claim 18, wherein the height of the putter head from the sole ~~a back~~ face of the putter head to the top ~~bottom~~ of the toe face of the putter head is in between about 26 millimeters and about 40 millimeters.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Original) The putter of Claim 18, wherein the angle of the back face with respect to vertical is between about 10 degrees and about 60 degrees.

25. (Original) The putter of Claim 18, and further comprising a putter head cover comprising a plurality of planar faces operable to engage a plurality of respective faces of the putter head and further comprising a shaft detent operable to flexibly engage the shaft of the putter to hold the putter head cover in place around the putter head.

26. (Currently Amended') A putter comprising:
a shaft having a proximate end and a distal end;
a grip affixed to the proximate end of the shaft;
a putter head affixed to the distal end of the shaft, the putter head comprising a front face, top face, and sole face, each of the faces being substantially planar in character and sole face being substantially parallel to and substantially wider than the top face; and
a putter head cover comprising a plurality of planar faces operable to engage the front face, top face, and sole face of the putter head and further comprising a shaft detent operable to flexibly engage the shaft of the putter to hold the putter head cover in place around the putter head.

27. (Original) A putter comprising:
a shaft having a proximate end and a distal end;
a grip affixed to the proximate end of the shaft;
a putter head affixed to the distal end of the shaft, the putter head comprising a back face, toe face, heel face and sole face, wherein the sole face includes a first bevel disposed at the interface of the sole face and the toe face of the putter head, and wherein the sole face includes a second bevel disposed at the interface of the sole face and the heel face of the putter head, wherein the back face defines a slot disposed in a longitudinal direction across the entirety of the back face of the putter head.

28. (Original) The putter of Claim 27, wherein the putter head comprises a titanium alloy comprising about 6 percent aluminum and about 4 percent vanadium.

29. (Original) The putter of Claim 27, wherein the putter head comprises 17-4 stainless steel.

30. (Currently Amended) A set of putters, comprising:
a first shaft and a second shaft, each having a proximate end and distal end;
a first grip affixed to the proximate end of the first shaft and a second grip affixed to the proximate end of the second shaft;
a first putter head affixed to the distal end of the first shaft and a second putter head affixed to the distal end of the second shaft, and wherein the first putter head has approximately the same dimensions as the second putter head and wherein the first putter head has a greater putter head mass than the second putter head; and
wherein the angle of the first shaft to the first putter head is more nearly vertical than the angle of the second shaft to the second putter head.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Original) The set of putters of Claim 30, wherein the first putter head comprises a first front face and the second putter head comprises a second front face, and wherein the loft of the second front face is greater or less than the loft of the first front face.

33. (New) The putter of Claim 1, wherein the slot is located approximately in the vertical center of the back face and includes a width of approximately one inch measured along the face of the back face.

34. (New) The putter of Claim 1, wherein the slot comprises a top side that is parallel to a top face of the putter head and a bottom side that is parallel to the sole face.

35. (New) The putter of Claim 1, wherein the slot comprises a top side and a bottom side that are both perpendicular to the back face.

36. (New) A putter comprising:
- a shaft having a proximate end and a distal end;
 - a grip affixed to the proximate end of the shaft;
 - a putter head formed from a unitary block of metal and affixed to the distal end of the shaft at a location between a longitudinal mid-point and a heel face of the putter head, the putter head comprising:
 - a front face having a face angle with respect to vertical between about 0 degrees and about 10 degrees;
 - a back face having a face angle with respect to vertical between about 10 degrees and about 60 degrees;
 - a toe face having a face angle with respect to vertical between about 10 degrees and about 20 degrees;
 - a sole face;
 - a slot disposed in a longitudinal direction across the entirety of the back face;
 - a first bevel coupled between the sole face and the back face;
 - a second bevel coupled between the sole face and the toe face;
 - a third bevel coupled between the sole face and the heel face;
 - an interface between the front face and the sole face radiused at a radius from about 1/8 inch to about 3/8 inch;
 - the length of the putter head from the back face to the bottom of the toe face being between about 90 millimeters and about 110 millimeters;
 - the height of the putter head from the sole face to a top face being between about 26 millimeters and about 40 millimeters; and
 - a putter head cover comprising a plurality of planar faces operable to engage a plurality of respective faces of the putter head and further comprising a shaft detent operable to flexibly engage the shaft to hold the putter head cover in place around the putter head.